

Tribal Program Newsletter

This is our first attempt to send the TPN to many of you via email only. If we do not have your email address, we will send you a paper copy; but if you prefer to receive the newsletter in email format, please send us your address and your name will be added to our list. Emails are a good way to protect our resources by conserving paper. Also, it will be posted on (http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/.html)

*All new entries will be marked “**New Item**”*

Meetings and Conferences

July 19-23 **The 5th International Children’s Conference on the Environment:**
Sponsored by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), New London, CT. Applications and more information can be accessed online at: <http://www.icc04.org> or by contacting Kimmie Weeks, Senior Planner/ Advisor (860)437-0757, or email info@icc04.org.

July 20-22 **Regional Tribal Operation Committee (RTOC).**
The next RTOC meeting will be hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe at the Circus Circus Hotel-Casino, Reno, NV.

- ▶ July 20: Tribal Caucus meeting from 8:00 - 5:00.
- ▶ July 21: Full RTOC meeting from 9:00 - 5:00.
- ▶ July 22: Workgroups will meet for discussion from 9:00 - 12:00,
- ▶ July 22: Pyramid Lake Field Trip from 12:30 - 6:30.

For more information, contact Michele Dineyazhe (415) 972-3786 or email dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov

July 25 - 30 **American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):**
The ASTM Committee D22 on Air Quality will sponsor an international conference on “Mold in the Indoor Environment” at the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Membership in ASTM International is not required. The fee to attend this symposium is \$320 for presenters and ASTM members if paid before July 2 and \$370 for non-members. After July 2, the fee for presenters and ASTM members is \$345 and \$395 for non-members. The fee is waived for students with a valid I.D. For information about the symposium, which includes a program agenda, registration, and hotel details, access the ASTM Web site at http://www.astm.org/SYMPOSIA/D22_Symp04.htm. For additional information contact the Symposium Chairperson: Eva Ewing (770) 499-7127; (EMEwing@aol.com);

- Oct. 25-26 **The Regional Tribal Operation Committee (RTOC).**
The RTOC will meet at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate in San Francisco, CA, prior to the 12th Annual Region 9 Tribal/EPA Conference. For more information, contact Michele Dineyazhe (415) 972-3786 or email dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov
- Oct. 27-29 **The 12th Annual Region 9 Tribal/EPA Conference.**
The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate in San Francisco, CA. It will be hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. All forms may be obtained by calling Lela Leyva, Conference Coordinator, (775) 574-1000 ext. 245; FAX (775) 574-1010; lleyva@plpt.nsn.us
- Oct. 2005 **Tribal/EPA Conference 2005:**
Picayune Rancheria will co-host the 2005 EPA Tribal Environmental Conference. More information in upcoming newsletters.

Training

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

July 20-23 The ITEP in cooperation with US EPA, will be offering a Tribal Basic Inspector Training course in Oneida, WI. This course is designed for tribal professionals who currently have, or are planning to develop soon, a civil environmental compliance program for their tribe or tribal consortium. ITEP will pay all course costs as well as the transportation and lodging costs for those participants selected. ITEP will also reimburse per diem costs following the course.

July 23 and August 17-20 NPDES Inspector Training
September 14-17. Basic Inspector Training

Information on the above-mentioned courses is available from the ITEP/NAU web site <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/eci.asp> or by contacting Todd Barbell at (928) 523-3840, or Todd.Barnell@nau.edu.

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA)

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) will offer the following courses:
July 7-12 Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Training and Examination
July 13-14 "Healthy Water, Healthy People" Education and Training Workshop",
Peoria, AZ

For more information and registration forms, please call the ITCA (602) 258-4822.

National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

The most up-to-date list of enforcement/compliance monitoring courses offered by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance is now available at <http://www.netionline.com>. NETI is also advertising some EPA Regional Office sponsored courses from Regions 4, 5 and 6.

Summertime . . . and the training is pleasing! Check <http://www.netionline.com> for July and August offerings of some of the most popular enforcement courses such as Basic Inspector, Advanced Inspector, and Advanced Negotiations Skills training.

Can't travel to training? The NETI catalog lists several videos and CD-ROM courses that can be mailed to you FREE of charge. Go to <http://www.netionline.com> and register as a student at EPA's "virtual university" and start class in your own computer!

Continuing Challenge Workshop

The Continuing Challenge Workshop will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA, beginning September 7. Advancement in hazardous materials emergency response are dynamic and this cooperative educational venture for HazMat Responders features classroom sessions and outdoor workshops. Your attendance could be critical to promote the health and safety of responders, the public and the environment. For more information call (916) 433-1688.

Grants and Loans

***New Item:* Draft Guidance on Grants for Tribal Lands Available is out for comment.**

Draft guidance and the tentative allotment of \$6.7 million in grants for public water system supervision programs on tribal lands was made available by the Environmental Protection Agency June 4 and is out for comment. The draft provides direction on how the funds can be used, how they would be allocated, and other important information. Priority areas for which the funds may be used have been the same for several years and include capacity development, tribal operator certification program support, source water protection program support, assistance in administering drinking water infrastructure grants, and support for regional direct implementation programs. A goal for the public water system supervision program in fiscal year 2005 is for 90 percent of the population served by community water systems on tribal lands to have drinking water that meets all applicable standards. Comments on the draft guidance should be submitted by July 5 to Rick Naylor, who can be reached by calling (202) 564-3847. The draft is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal/grants.html>

Miscellaneous Items

***New Item:* World Water Monitoring Day**

America's Clean Water Foundation and the International Water Association are inviting citizens and organizations from around the globe to share in the experience of water quality monitoring on World Water Monitoring Day on October 18. World Water Monitoring Day serves as a global educational platform for watershed leaders, educators and trained volunteers to help those who are less experienced better understand how the actions of individuals in a watershed can impact many others.

From September 18 to October 18, citizens throughout the world community will have an opportunity to monitor the quality of their local watersheds and enter the results of their efforts into an international database. Then, on October 18, we will celebrate World Water Monitoring Day together.

Based on registered participants during the first two years, we estimate that over 75,000 took part in World Water Monitoring Day activities in each year. In addition, the media exposure and broader exposure is resulting in increasing interest from other individuals, organizations, and governments. Please visit the World Water Monitoring Day web site at: <http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org>. For further information, please contact Ed Moyer, World Water Monitoring Day Coordinator at e.moyer@acwf.org, or at (202) 746-8493.

New Item: EPA Focuses on Challenge of Providing Tribal Access to Drinking Water and Sanitation

In August 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) was held in Johannesburg, South Africa. Former EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman and Secretary of State Colin Powell represented the United States. The WSSD marked the 10th Anniversary of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. There was a focus on the slow progress made by the international community since 1992 in addressing the large proportion of people around the world who lack access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that came out of the WSSD contained a number of goals ratified by the US. Among those goals was a commitment to reduce by half, by 2015, the proportion of people in developing areas around the world lacking access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

At a National Tribal Operations Committee meeting in September 2002, EPA responded to a question about the agency's intentions regarding the Johannesburg access goals, and recognized that we had the opportunity to show some leadership among all US government agencies that provide infrastructure services in Indian country.

Since January 2004, EPA has been building relationships and reaching out to our federal partners. EPA joined an Interagency Infrastructure Task Force, in March 2004, which meets monthly in Washington, DC. EPA believes partnerships are critical to the success of this effort, and is currently working with several federal agencies, including the US Department of State as the lead federal agency for the Johannesburg goals, and the National American Indian Housing Counsel due to their focused expertise on infrastructure issues in Indian country. Other agencies represented on the Task Force include the USDA, HUD, Department of Commerce, BIA, BOR, and IHS. The first goal of the Task Force is to develop a more flexible, updated interagency agreement dealing with the provision of infrastructure services in Indian country. The 1996 Tri Party Agreement among BIA, IHS and HUD is no longer useful.

EPA hopes to dovetail into the existing work of the Task Force – focusing infrastructure resources to help bring water and sanitation services up to the standards of the rest of the country – and to initiate discussions of the Johannesburg Goals, to focus mostly in Regions 6, 9 and 10. Plans include organizing a national workgroup within EPA to work out the details of implementation with the tribes. For more information, contact Jeff Besougloff, Senior Policy Advisor, EPA, American

Indian Environmental Office, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 3334,
Washington, DC, 20004, (202) 564-0303.

New Item: Tribal Homeland Security, H.R. 4526

A bill to ensure the coordination and integration of Indian tribes in the National Homeland Security Coordination and Integration Act was introduced to the House on June 8, 2004. This bill will:

- (1) create the position of Director of the Office of Tribal Government Homeland Security;
- (2) treat Indian Tribes as states;
- (3) coordinate and integrate Homeland security with the BIA and IHS
- (4) include Indian tribes with coordinating and information sharing as related to homeland security; and
- (5) authorize federal grants for planning, training and education, communication and infrastructure and plan development, implementation and assessments.

For more information contact your congressman or go to <http://www.dhs.gov>

Web sites for Tribal Programs and other EPA Programs:

American Indian Environmental Office (EPA)
<http://www.epa.gov/indian>

Office of Compliance (EPA)
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance>

National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse
<http://www.epa.gov/clearinghouse>
Pollution Prevention & Environ. Mgmt Systems
<http://www.epa.gov/p2>

Tribal Court Clearinghouse
<http://www.tribal-institute.org>
National Tribal Environmental Council
<http://www.4.nau.edu/itep/>

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
<http://www.itcaonline.com>

Federal Indian Law Handbook
<http://www.thorpe.ou.edu/cohen/html>

National Tribal Justice Resource Center
(<http://www.tribalresourcescenter.org>)

National Congress of American Indians
(<http://www..ncai.org>.)

World Health Organization SARS
(<http://www.who.int/en>.)

Center for Disease Control
(<http://www.cdc.gov>)

ITCA's Tribal Air National ListServ
(TribalAir-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com)

If you have information, corrections or know of items that you want to submit to the TPN, please contact:

Maria Castain, U.S. EPA (Region 9)
Tribal Program Office, CMD-3
75 Hawthorne Street,
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 972-3264; fax (415) 947-3562; castain.maria@epa.gov